

St. Peter's Church Magazine August/September 2014 50p



The Ancient Chapelry of Formby St. Peter, Apostle and Martyr

Quiz Night

Please note new location and date:

Friday 19th September
at Formby Cricket Club
from 7.30pm



Harvest Festival Sunday 5th October
10.00am. Parade Service,
followed by BBQ next to the
Bier House.

6.30pm Harvest Thanksgiving,
followed by refreshments

(See page 12 for more details)



Barry Dryden and the Moira Male Voice Choir



Saturday 11th October,
Concert in Church

Mark Andrews
Social Committee

Front cover photo: Formby Beach, Gill Lamont

From the Editorial Team

We welcome readers to our combined August/September edition of St Peter's Magazine - a bumper edition of 52 pages.

Do read Anne's message on pages 4 and 5 - the new broom is not letting the grass grow under her feet, if you'll pardon the mixing of metaphors! You can probably detect signs of her influence on other pages in this magazine.

We trust you will spend some time swotting up for the Quiz Night on Friday 19th September. We haven't used the Cricket Club facilities before, but early reports are encouraging (it has a bar!).

We don't usually comment on the advertisements in the magazine, but this month is an exception. You will undoubtedly recall the splendid array of photographs in the June edition taken at Anne's Licensing on 11th May. They were taken by John Howard, a member of our church, who is setting up his own photography business. His advert appears on page 40; if you need a professional photographer, John would be delighted to hear from you!

Enjoy the summer break; we'll be back in the autumn with the October edition.

The Editorial Team

*Please note that the deadline for the **October** edition of the magazine is **Friday 12th September 2014***

Please email contributions if possible to alisonwhiffing@aol.com

Dear Friends,

In some ways it's hard to realise that nearly three months have passed since my institution to St. Peter's! Sometimes it feels like only a few weeks, and, at other times, because we have settled in so quickly, and you have been so encouraging and friendly, it seems much longer.

And so my mind has begun to think about future plans and developments.



Initially, there are three – with more to come later!

First of all, I am introducing a “**Service of Wholeness**” on the second Sunday of the month at 6.30pm, beginning on September 14th. In his review of St. Peter's, the Archdeacon pointed out that this is one area to be considered and developed. Please see the article about the Church's Ministry of Divine Healing.

Rev. Peter Paine and Ted have had a lot of experience in this aspect of ministry and they will be assisting me. This ministry is not new in St. Peter's but I do want to establish a regular service. This service is open to all and, while in the context of a Eucharist, there is the option just for prayer, which will take place in the Formby Chapel. The Healing Ministry will also be the topic for **Think About Sunday** on 7th September – there will be the opportunity to ask questions and discuss this particular ministry after refreshments in the Bier House.

Secondly, I have been thinking about how to enhance the **Harvest Thanksgiving Celebration**. The plan this year will be to have the All-Age Parade Service & BBQ in the morning as in previous years. Then we will have a Harvest Thanksgiving Service in the evening and invite both parishioners and the wider community. I am delighted that the Dean of Liverpool, the Very Revd Pete Wilcox, has agreed to be our special preacher for this service. The Social Committee are working on a special “Harvest Punch” to be served afterwards! So please spread the word as everyone is welcome.

And the third area I want to start work on is that of **Children's Ministry**.

There are two specific areas I want to consider. The first is a "Good News Club" on a weekday evening for young people aged 8 – 11 years old (Year 4, 5 & 6), and the second is a "Sunday Club" for younger children during the time of the 10am Eucharist. I also feel there is a need for a monthly 30 minute service for those whose involvement in sport and other commitments makes attendance at the 10am service difficult. I want to discuss with parents the best time to have such a service and I would hope to get this going in October.

With regard to children's ministry I would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping with either the weekday "Good News Club" or the "Sunday Club" as both will need a team. Time is also needed for leaders to be CRB checked. I will also be involved and will help provide training and resources. Please let me know if you are interested in helping.

I have been told that **Confirmation** will be held on Advent Sunday, 30th November at 3pm in St. Stephen's, Hightown. So preparation classes will need to begin in September. Usually candidates are in Year 6 or older. A confirmation group will meet at a time that suits those interested. I would be grateful if those who are considering confirmation could let me know their names and then I will arrange a meeting with candidates and parents in early September. For any adults interested in confirmation there will be a separate preparation group.

There is a huge potential for development in St. Peter's, and I look forward to sharing further thoughts and ideas as time goes by. But here are three for starters! Hopefully there will be more when the October magazine is published!

Enjoy the summer and may we all be refreshed and invigorated when September comes round again.



Sincerely,

Anne

Church of England Approves Women Bishops

Monday 14th July 2014

www.archbishopofcanterbury.org

Archbishop of Canterbury welcomes the result but stresses this is not "winner takes all" but "in love a time for the family to move on together."

The General Synod today gave its final approval for women to become bishops in the Church of England. The vote in the General Synod on the measure was carried by the required two-thirds majority in the three constituent parts of the Synod: the House of Bishops, the House of Clergy and the House of Laity.



The voting results were as follows:

House of Bishops:	Yes 37	No 2	Abstentions 1
House of Clergy:	Yes 162	No 25	Abstentions 4
House of Laity:	Yes 152	No 45	Abstentions 5

This means the first woman bishop could potentially be appointed by the end of the year.

Today's vote comes 18 months after the proposal was last voted upon in November 2012, when the proposal failed to achieve the required two-thirds majority in the House of Laity.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "Today is the completion of what was begun over 20 years ago with the ordination of women as priests. I am delighted with today's result. Today marks the start of a great adventure of seeking mutual flourishing while still, in some cases, disagreeing.

"The challenge for us will be for the church to model good disagreement and to continue to demonstrate love for those who disagree on theological grounds. Very few institutions achieve this, but if we manage this we will be living out more fully the call of Jesus Christ to love one another. As delighted as I am for the outcome of this vote, I am also mindful of those within the Church for whom the result will be difficult and a cause of sorrow."

"My aim, and I believe the aim of the whole church, should be to be able to offer a place of welcome and growth for all. Today is a time of blessing and gift from God and thus of generosity. It is not winner take all, but in love a time for the family to move on together".

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, said: "This is a momentous day. Generations of women have served the Lord faithfully in the Church of England for centuries. It is a moment of joy today: the office of Bishop is open to them."

"To those who ask "what took you so long?" my answer is that every decision has a cost and there will be those within our body who will be hurting as a result of this decision. Our answer to the hurting should not be "get over it" but rather "we will not let go until you have blessed us."

"We move slowly because we move together. But in moving together we achieve not only what is just but also model what is right. As the African Proverb says: "Whoever walks fast, travels alone. Whoever walks far, walks in the company of others."

Read more about the vote on the Church of England website -
www.churchofengland.org

Changes for the Methodist Church in Formby



FORMBY
METHODIST
CHURCH

The Methodist Minister in Formby,
Rev. John Ritson, moved in July to
the Weald of Kent Circuit.

In September his successor, the Rev Terry Keen, will be welcomed as Superintendent Minister of the Crosby Circuit and Minister in Formby. Terry's service of welcome and induction will take place on **Saturday 6th September at 3pm at Elbow Lane**. That service will be led by the new Chair of the Liverpool Methodist District, the Rev. Sheryl Anderson.

Understanding

General Horrocks recounts how, as a newly promoted major, he was posted to the War Office. On arrival he was informed he was working in the personnel divisions where he would receive all the reports on officers in the army. His job was to underline in red all adverse comments and underline in blue all the good statements, all the rest was to be deleted. This was a brisk way for the army quickly to assess an individual's potential for specialist courses and promotion - but it is a poor way to gain an overall impression of a person. This is the curse of the annual assessment demanded by employers, how do you convey, in writing, someone's true character? It could be argued that a better impression would be gained by having the annual report written by the person next rank down. This would clearly allow the effect of the senior's behaviour to be known.

An example of the problem of gaining insight into behaviour was provided by a visit from Chinese officials in the 1860s. These men had never been outside their country before, but the Chinese dowager empress, who ran the government of that time, believed it important for her country to be understood and for her officials to be clear about the demands of foreign powers. One official wrote about the Christian religion he encountered. He thought the Christian approach was good but hypocritical, stating, "Westerners preach the love of God and love of man and believe it, but wage wars ... and conquer people with force".

The issue of truly understanding the character and authority of someone is brought home in the life of John the Baptist. It is well known John saw part of his prophetic work was to prepare the way for Jesus and to accept that he was to baptise him. At the moment of the baptism John had already identified Jesus as Christ and this was confirmed by a voice from heaven which said, "You are my beloved son, in You I am well pleased." This must have reinforced John's recognition of Jesus as the Christ figure. So what happened to John to make him doubt whether his judgement had been right?

Luke states that John, in prison, after hearing about the teaching and actions of Jesus, sent two disciples to ask, "Are you the coming one or do we look for another?" The effect of imprisonment can be totally disorienting and the outside world is filtered through the statements of guards and visitors. John, desperately lonely and aware he could be executed, needed confirmation of his prophetic statements.

The answer Jesus gives is to tell John's disciples to report back to him on what they have seen, "That the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them." In other words it by my actions you must judge me. This confirmation that Jesus must be acknowledged as the Christ figure through his behaviour means that we have the same chance as John to understand the true nature of Christ.

It is to be hoped that John, before his murder by Herod, had accepted Jesus as the Christ figure. The answer given to the disciples to relay to John set the way for us. The Chinese diplomats did not look closely at Christian teaching to realise the importance of the recognition of weakness in humankind by Jesus and the strength of forgiveness in his teaching. To have a fully rounded knowledge of someone is not by looking at the good bits in blue but also by looking beyond the bad bits in red. It is one of the most demanding of judgements to assess someone by what they do. But Jesus accepted this as a true way of understanding another.

Rod Jacques





Harvest Festival

Sunday 5th October

10.00am All Age Parade Service

Followed by BBQ next to the Bier House

6.30pm Harvest Thanksgiving Service

Special Preacher

The Dean of Liverpool,

Very Revd Pete Wilcox

Followed by Harvest Punch refreshments.

**Please spread the word – everyone is very
welcome to our Harvest Thanksgiving Services.**

Music and Faith



In a book about the first world war called *King and Country* an army chaplain told the story of how he tried to counsel a young prisoner the night before he was to be shot for desertion. A reading from the gospels left the young man apparently unmoved; in despair the chaplain suggested reading a hymn.

The prisoner chooses *Rock of Ages* but prefers to sing it - very well as it turns out. He then chooses hymn after hymn which he and the chaplain sing lustily. Lastly he turns to *God be with us till we meet again*, the only hymn which he repeats before singing all three verses of *God Save The King*, at which point his guards stand to attention.

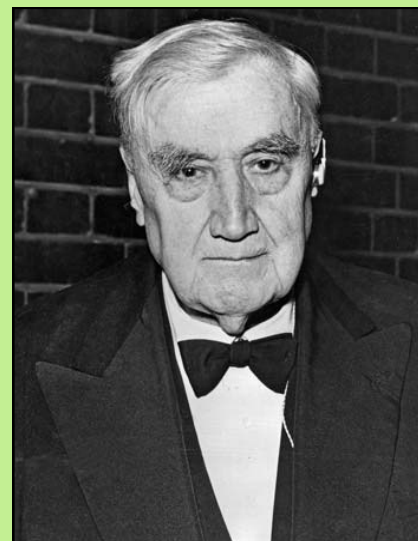
The following morning he was shot and the last words the chaplain heard him speak were 'Safe in the arms of Jesus.'

Congregational songs, such as that unfortunate young soldier must have grown up with were part of worship in the early church (until singing in churches became more formalized) and only resurfaced as a result of changed thinking at the time of the Reformation. It was Martin Luther, an accomplished flautist, lutenist and singer, who was particularly aware of the power music could have in the life of the church. One of the tunes he composed as a paraphrase of Psalm 46 was 'Ein Feste Burg' *A Safe Stronghold Our God Is Still.*

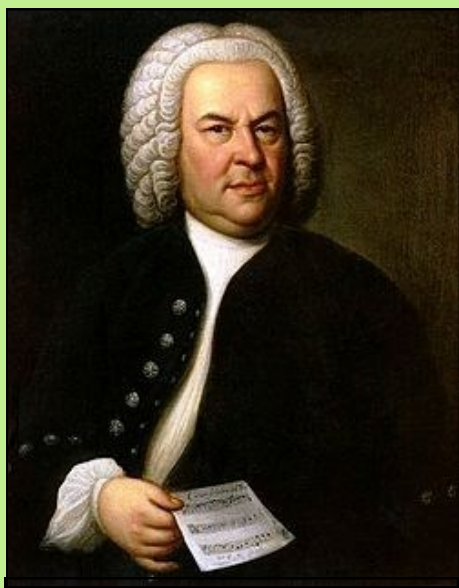
At the time of the reformation in England when Roman Catholics were forced to use the new *Book Of Common Prayer* and thus music for the English church had to be rethought, John Merbecke, a student of Calvin, and a reformer himself, published a book called *Booke of Common Prayer Noted*. It is interesting to note that, although we do use up-to-date music at St. Peter's, we do also sing Merbecke's version of the creed from time to time.

The singing of hymns and metrical songs became very important ingredients in church services both here and in protestant Europe and was particularly important to dissenting congregations. Think, for example, of Isaac Watts and Charles Wesley. The Anglican Church's first collection of hymns appeared in 1861 under the title *Hymns Ancient and Modern* and this and succeeding editions had a profound effect on worship.

Then in 1906 the young Ralph Vaughan Williams and Percy Dearmer together brought out *The English Hymnal* which banished much Victoriana. Percy Dearmer, a cleric, wanted better up-to-date material which is why he turned to Vaughan Williams, who contributed a number of hymn tunes, among them *Sine Nomine* 'For All The Saints' and *Down Ampney* 'Come Down O Love Divine'.



Ralph Vaughan Williams 1957



Portrait of Bach, aged 61, 1748

Music, it seems, is innate in us and involves all areas of the brain and in particular the limbic system, a mammalian feature and the seat of our emotional responses. Somehow sound waves are transmitted in other ways than through straightforward hearing processes for those who are deaf, and of course we are all well aware of the graceful power of music to those who are brain damaged. New born babies clearly respond to sound, as I remember when a 2-day-old grandson of ours, listening intently, moved his head towards a toy playing nursery rhymes when it was placed beside him by his older sister.

For many, as we have already seen, music is the expression of faith as it was for say Bach, or Haydn and in very recent times John Tavener. Whereas for others music is altogether to be feared, witness hardline Muslims, who, it was said recently, do not want their children contaminated by its power. There is a further body of people whose reactions to it are more ill defined yet they feel very strongly the pull of music, which somehow reaches out to a being or existence beyond themselves.



Portrait of Joseph Haydn, 1792

Steven Isserlis, the cellist, was reported as saying last month in the *Independent On Sunday* that '*composers such as Beethoven and Fauré, my favourite, help me to be in touch with something higher than myself. No matter how miserable I am, if I am playing a heightened concerto full of joy, I feel that joy*'

There was a recent repeat of a televised interview with Sir Colin Davis, the conductor, recorded a few months before he died, in which he said that, although he might call himself agnostic, when he conducted works such as Bach's St. John Passion, he believed in all that he was conducting.

Similarly there are musicians who write memorable music for the Christian church without being part of it. Among them, as we have seen, was the son of a Church of England cleric.

Ralph Vaughan Williams composed the inspired *Five Mystical Songs* based on poems by the lute playing George Herbert. Ursula Vaughan Williams maintained that her composer husband was 'cheerfully agnostic' till the end of his days.

Who will doubt the enormous emotional charge of a love song sung by a single vocalist to an audience at a major festival, or the unifying power for good of a song like '*You'll Never Walk Alone*' sung at Anfield to commemorate the recent 25th anniversary of the Hillsborough disaster.

Each one of us who has ever lived, it seems, is endowed with a basic musicality with which we express ourselves across the whole gamut of joy and sorrow in our daily lives. The ancient philosophers even taught that the soul was enticed into the body with music: all the more reason, then, for us to raise our voices and instruments, and in the words of the poet who wrote Psalm 150

'Praise God in his holiness: praise him in the firmament of his power

Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord.'



Sir Colin Davis

Jane Pitts

St. Peter's "Toast Club"

for families with pre-school children
Every Thursday from 9.30am in the
Church Hall, Paradise Lane
£2.00 per family
for unlimited tea, coffee, cordial,
toast & biscuits.

A chance for you to chat while the children play!

Paradise Lane (St Peter's) Pre-School

St Peter's Church Hall, Paradise Lane
(opposite Trinity St Peter's School)

Providing high quality nursery care and education
for children aged 2 years to school age.

Open Monday - Friday (during term times)
9.00am - 3.00pm (flexible sessions available)

Excellent OFSTED reports.
Nursery Education Grant Funding available

For further information, please contact:
Sharon Hubbard: Tel. 834437

**We believe in developing young children through
planned and structured play**

Trinity St Peter's C of E School

Trinity St. Peter's Primary School serves both Holy Trinity and St. Peter's Parishes and is a warm, friendly school with a strong Christian ethos.

The needs of the one-form entry school with nursery provision are catered for by a dedicated, hardworking staff.

Trinity St. Peter's consistently achieves high academic standards.

"It is the quality of the School's ethos and its excellent systems of care and support that contribute much to the high standards of personal development" according to the Ofsted Report of September, 2006. In addition, in November, 2006, the school received an excellent report under the National Society's Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools.

For further information about enrolment (to the School, Nursery, Start Right Group or Wrap Around Care Provision) please contact the school on 01704 876391.



L EARNING FOR LIVING

Learning for Living is an essay competition held each year between all the Formby schools, both primary and secondary. It is based on a scheme set up in America by the John Templeton Foundation. John Templeton was an internationally prominent financier and philanthropist. From a background of deep spirituality he developed a wonderful collection of universal laws of life; principles present in every society and which can lead to a common understanding – honesty, generosity, integrity and self control being just a few of them.

In the Learning for Living competition, each school uses similar topics in the curriculum to consider and discuss, and then the pupils write about something in their own experience drawing out a moral principle that, if embraced, would make our society and our world a better place to live in. The schools select three entries to submit to the competition's co-ordinator, Mrs. Jennifer Mathias, who edits out any reference to the individuals and schools and forwards copies to 3 judges. These are representatives from the three sponsors of the scheme – Formby Lions, Southport Soroptimists and St Peter's (Formby) Educational Trust. The Vicar and Churchwardens of St Peter's are the trustees of this latter charity and I have been delighted to be the representative judge of this competition since 2008.

Jennifer sends us out the essays at Christmas time and in January the judges meet at her house to discuss the entries and compare our decisions regarding the first, second and third choice of essay from each school, and an overall winner from each of the primary and secondary sectors. Sometimes we are in quick agreement over the grading; at other times we have had lengthy discussion before a consensus is reached, which goes to show the generally very high calibre of writing. When all decisions have been reached, Jenny reveals the names of the pupils and the schools from which they come.

An awards ceremony is held in March. All the pupils whose essays were judged, together with their parents, school representatives and the judges attend, and Jenny announces the results. Winners' certificates and monetary prizes are awarded to all the pupils and the overall winning schools receive a trophy which they hold for the year. A file containing the nine overall winning essays is also presented to each school and to the sponsors of the competition. All pupils who wrote essays for the competition – 424 of them in 2014 – also receive a certificate.

St Peter's (Formby) Educational Trust was first set up in 1998 from a small number of bequests and endowments where the benefactors had a common purpose of supporting and encouraging the education and well being of the young people of Formby. It was amended in 2007 to broaden its scope.

Over the years the Trust has helped fund numerous projects for Trinity St Peter's and other schools in Formby and has sponsored the Learning for Living scheme each year. There have also been many donations to youth organisations and sports groups, and from time to time small grants to individuals requesting financial help towards funding overseas trips fulfilling the terms of the trust.

Recent significant donations have enabled the 9th Formby Scouts to purchase a 16-seater minibus, provided the defibrillator machine sited at TSP school and the transport for all the Formby Brownies going to Knowsley Safari Park as part of their 100th birthday celebrations.

In a future issue, the magazine will publish my favourite of all the winning entries of the Learning for Living competition which I have had the pleasure of reading. Meanwhile if anyone would like to read one of the files of winning essays, I will happily let you have one.

Shirley

Churchwarden and Trustee



To The Members of St. Peter's Church

Thank you for your prayers, love and concern, cards and gifts to Heather and myself during Heather's recent illness. They were much appreciated and upheld us both through this difficult time.

Thank you.

Love

Eleanor and Heather x

Known to God

Remembering those who died in the Great War? These are the words of the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey:

**BENEATH THIS STONE RESTS THE BODY
OF A BRITISH WARRIOR
UNKNOWN BY NAME OR RANK
BROUGHT FROM FRANCE TO LIE AMONG
THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS OF THE LAND
AND BURIED HERE ON ARMISTICE DAY
11 NOV: 1920, IN THE PRESENCE OF
HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE V
HIS MINISTERS OF STATE
THE CHIEFS OF HIS FORCES
AND A VAST CONCOURSE OF THE NATION
THUS ARE COMMEMORATED THE MANY
MULTITUDES WHO DURING THE GREAT
WAR OF 1914 - 1918 GAVE THE MOST THAT
MAN CAN GIVE, LIFE ITSELF,
FOR GOD
FOR KING AND COUNTRY
FOR LOVED ONES HOME AND EMPIRE
FOR THE SACRED CAUSE OF JUSTICE AND
THE FREEDOM OF THE WORLD
THEY BURIED HIM AMONG THE KINGS BECAUSE HE
HAD DONE GOOD TOWARD GOD AND TOWARD
HIS HOUSE**

Around the main inscription are four Bible texts:

**THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS (top)
2 Timothy 2:19**

**UNKNOWN AND YET WELL KNOWN, DYING AND BEHOLD
WE LIVE (side) 2 Corinthians 6:9**

IN CHRIST SHALL ALL BE MADE ALIVE (base)

1 Corinthians 15:22

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS (side)

John 15:13

These four Bible verses were chosen because many of those who fought and died 100 years ago believed:

- God exists
- We are known individually by him
- Jesus Christ made it possible for us to know God
- Because of Jesus, we can have life after death

When we are silent, sometimes we can become more aware of God's presence. Just as troops on the battlefields called out to God, you can talk to him about the big issues in your life.

Most people pray at some time in their lives. In war and in peacetime, throughout history, men and women have called out to God. Prayer connects us with God. You can use your own words or the following words of King David, written around 3,000 years ago.

Hear my prayer... When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me.

Psalm 86 verses 6 & 7

Many soldiers and their families found comfort and strength in Psalms like these and in talking to the God who promises: 'You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.' Jeremiah chapter 29 verse 13

This is an extract adapted from 'Silence' - a booklet for the World War 1 commemorations produced for Hope14 by CPO – find out more at www.hopetogether.org.uk/greaterlove

THE CHURCH'S MINISTRY OF DIVINE HEALING



In Luke 9:2 we read that Jesus commissioned his disciples “to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal”, and in obedience to that command the church today not only preaches the Word but also seeks to offer a ministry of healing to those in need.

The Gospel message is about salvation, and salvation, at root, means health, wholeness of body, mind or spirit.

When we read the Gospels we find that Jesus regarded sickness and disease as contrary to God's perfect will. To no-one did he say, 'Look, I'm sorry but it's not God's will for you to be healed.' Rather, as St. Matthew records, “Jesus went throughout Galilee teaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom, curing every disease and every sickness among the people”

This two-fold ministry was carried on by the apostles after the Ascension. After the proclamation of the Gospel by Peter on the Day of Pentecost, the first recorded act of the disciples was to heal the crippled man at the Beautiful Gate. And so, the Church, as the Body of Christ in each generation, has sought to continue this two-fold ministry.

The bishops of the Anglican Communion, meeting at Lambeth in 1988, said “the healing of the sick in Christ's name is as much a part of the proclamation of the Kingdom as the preaching of the Good News”, and they went on to state “that to neglect this aspect of ministry is to diminish our part in Christ's total redemptive activity.”

This ministry is therefore a ministry of the Church. It is not that of an individual who claims some special powers. And this aspect is emphasised when the healing ministry is administered in the sacramental context of the Eucharist.

Two sacramental acts are usually used – the laying on of hands in Christ's name and anointing with oil.

It is Divine Healing, recognising God as the source of health and wholeness. It is inclusive and works hand in hand with the work of doctors, surgeons and nurses, offering a spiritual resource to complement the skills and treatments of the medical profession.

What the Church's Ministry of Divine Healing seeks to do in a particular sacramental way is what the four friends in the Gospel did for the paralysed man – bring the needy to Jesus for his ministry to them.

We believe that God's *perfect* will is healing and wholeness. But we are also very well aware that God's will is not always done on earth as it is in heaven. And so often, in this ministry as in life in general, we have to walk in faith with a sense of mystery. As St. Paul wrote, "Here we see through a glass darkly". We don't have all the answers, but we believe that God always blesses and always gives strength and courage and peace to those who seek his grace.

A Service of Wholeness will be held every 2nd Sunday of the month at 6.30pm, beginning on **September 14th**. In preparation for the start of ministry, two sermons will be preached about this ministry at the 10am Eucharist on 24th August and 7th September.

Parish Office

New opening hours

Please note the parish office will be opening as follows:

Monday 9.30am – 12noon

Tuesday 9.30am – 12noon

Wednesday **CLOSED**

Thursday 9.30am – 12noon

Friday 9.30am – 12noon

New e-mail address

stpetersformby@gmail.com



BROWNIE AND GUIDE NEWS

We had our new flags dedicated by Anne on Sunday 13th July. In the photo is Sheila Johnson, leader of St Peter's Guide group, with our Brownies. After the service we had a party in the Church Hall, where we enrolled 5 new Brownies and celebrated our flag dedication.



It has been another wonderful year at Trinity St. Peter's CE Primary School



Year 5 and Year 6 being involved in the 'World War I Commemorative Event' forming the largest human poppy which broke a world record.

Year 6 also enjoyed a three day residential to Lakeside; orienteering, abseiling, canoeing, zip wires, climbing walls, giant swing, camp fires and sleepovers.



Highlights of Trinity St Peter's year have included:-

Welcoming Anne to the school as the new Vicar of St. Peter's Church!

The Bishop of Warrington presenting the school and both Churches with the Church School Partnership Award

The choir singing at Team TSP 'Heart and Soul Concert' with Ros Jackson and Graham Jones

And, of course, the boys and girls in Year 2 featuring on Granada Reports as part of their Road Safety campaign!

Each class were also asked to agree upon their favourite highlight of the year which sparked much debate.

For the boys and girls in the Foundation Stage they have chosen 'When Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears.' After reading and retelling the story of Goldilocks, the children invited Goldilocks and the Three Bears to their classroom to have a chat about being good friends. They were able to persuade Goldilocks to say sorry to Baby Bear for breaking his chair and eating his porridge, so they decided to have a party to celebrate the new friendship. They celebrated the end of their topic with a fabulous Teddy Bear's Picnic. The children planned all the details of the party and even made their own decorations. They wrote invitations for their own teddies and made cakes and honey crackers. They played 'Find the Teddy' and danced to their favourite teddy tunes. The children were delighted when Goldilocks and the Three Bears joined the picnic too!

The children have also thoroughly enjoyed exploring their classroom environment, particularly the new enhancements to the outside facilities with the creation of the Mud Kitchen and water features.



The children in both Year 6 and Reception have loved being paired up with their buddies. This year some of the highlights have been that the Year 6 pupils have helped Reception children with their sports day, planted trees with them and created books for them.



Key Stage 1 agreed upon their 'Happiness Project' where the children had an exciting time celebrating our school values within their happiness project. The children worked together to think about what makes them happy; they made some fantastic movies in the style of Pharrell Williams' Happy Video. They then thought about their unique skills and talents and how they could use them to spread their happiness! The children came up with the idea of performing a one-off 'Pop-up Panto' in the village for their community. They all took on different roles from director, actor, illustrator, photographer, set and costume designers, script writers and even a marketing team! They had a great time and we are sure their audience did as well!

The boys and girls in Key Stage 2 agreed upon the many fun days out they have had linked to their topics, with the children in Year 4 and 5 being particularly proud of showcasing their dancing talents to large audiences at Southport Theatre.

The above is really only a small insight into the wonderful world of TSP! For further information please also look at the whole school blog and class pages. (www.trinitystpeters.org/weekly-blog)

Thank you to all!

Debbie Pringle

Head Teacher

Footprints in the Sand

Within the compound where I live, in Al Khobar in the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia, is a football pitch, a baseball pitch and a reasonably large area of open ground around which is a one kilometre track. The track is used by a number of residents to go for a walk or even a jog, usually in the evenings, when the temperature drops down to the low 40's at this time of year.

I am one of those residents and today being Friday, and the first day of our weekend here, I opted to go for a walk earlier than usual especially as there had been a reasonable breeze blowing most of the day resulting in temperatures being in the low 40's at 5 p.m. as opposed to the high 40's and low 50's that we have experienced most of this week.

So I put my i-pod on and chose an album I had downloaded this week and set off on a five mile walk listening to some new music while watching the hoopoes and other birds enjoying the sprinklers on the football pitch.

The breeze had managed to cover most of the track in a fresh layer of light sand and being a Friday a lot of the residents were occupied on family weekend activities and so I was the first one to use the track on the day, a point emphasised on my second lap when I found myself following my own footprints in the sand. This, combined with the melodic music flowing through my head from my i-pod generated a number of thoughts in my mind.

There is something strange and emotional about following your own lonely footprints in the sand. Somehow it seems like a very sad, futile activity, and while I can vary the route slightly to the left or the right on the track the repetition is inevitable. Then my mind wandered to greater thoughts.

Thoughts of the cycle of life – the repetition of our own daily lives which in many ways may seem repetitive and insignificant until we consider all the interaction we have with others, and how for most of us our own lives are inevitably and continually intertwined with those of others, influencing many of those around us.

While the cycle of life for each of us is largely repetitive and only changes when we change tracks, usually caused by some major event in our lives – a change of job, a geographical change in our location, the arrival of a new

family member – even then the change of track soon results in a repeating cycle.

To some the above may seem a sad, even depressing picture but one thing that can be guaranteed with cycles is the repetition. That means that no matter how bad times may be, for the vast majority of us good times are not far away again. So cycles are not such a bad thing.

For a very fortunate few in this world they are able either continually to change their track, or in very few cases even break away from a cycle completely and live life on an ever changing route. But these people are very few and far between, and while some of us may always wish we too could break away from the cycle and make our own trail, this doesn't and shouldn't stop us from enjoying the cycle we are on. Especially when we remember all those whom we know and love who are on the same track, brightening each and every day.

Of course for all of us the current cycle will eventually end.

For some this is a frightening thought, but for those of faith this holds little fear.

For those with faith the end of our current cycle is not the end, but simply the start of another much greater cycle.

As our current lives involve daily cycles, weekly cycles, yearly cycles, and even lifelong cycles, each one is within another, and for those with faith the lifelong cycle is simply another cycle within a far greater and wondrous cycle that one day we will all explore.

Eventually the sun went down and my walk came to an end and I found myself very much at peace.

Faith, reinforced by footprints in the sand.

Paul Whiffing



Where are they now? Mike and Zara Hammond

It was in 1982 that the family moved from Formby to Norwich. However, in many ways Formby will always feel like 'home' - possibly because this is where our three sons all started school, at St Peter's, in the capable hands of the Headmaster Russell Brown - perhaps some people reading this will remember his 'coat of many colours' in the school production of 'Joseph' - just one of his many memorable productions. And then there was 'the grand swop' at the end of sports day...such happy memories!

So, where are we now? Well, the 'where' is easy - we are *still* in Norwich and *still* in the same house we moved to in 1982. Perhaps more relevant to this article is, "what have we been doing?"

Michael actually moved to Norwich in 1981 with Zara and the boys joining him a year later (the move being delayed by school exams). Living in the centre of a medieval walled city has continued to be one of the greatest delights of our move to East Anglia. The move was originally to enable Michael to take up the position of Director of Human Resources for Norwich City Council. However, in time, he changed career, eventually becoming a Senior Lecturer in Human Resources/ Business Ethics at Anglia Ruskin University where he stayed until retirement. Retirement was short-lived as an opportunity arose to lecture in Switzerland part-time, until final retirement some 5 years later.

Those with long memories may remember Michael as Reader at St Peter's in the time of Jack Thomas and subsequently as NSM Curate to Kevin Eastell. Subsequently, Michael's involvement in the church was not to continue for many years until the Bishop of Norwich, recognising Michael's continuing sense of vocation, chose to restore his ministry some 5 years ago, giving him permission to officiate as a deacon. So, now he is again a curate in our local parish of St George's, Colegate, in Norwich, working with the parish priest Phillip McFadyen who was born and brought up in Liverpool!

Despite the onset of Parkinson's Disease Michael keeps as active as possible and continues leading groups around Norwich as a Blue Badge Guide and attending U3A courses.

Whilst living in Formby Michael and Zara had been very involved in Round Table and Ladies Circle locally. Later, Zara's involvement in the wider organisation developed significantly, culminating in her eventually becoming President of Ladies Circle International in 1984/85, travelling extensively in Europe, Scandinavia, Africa and India. Before moving Zara had been approached to become a Magistrate and so, with the move and the paperwork transferred, she was appointed to the Norwich Bench in 1983. Once her Ladies Circle days were over Zara's career developed in a variety of ways over the next 20 years or so – as Director of RELATE: Norfolk and Suffolk; as Chair of an NHS Community and Learning Disability Trust; as Vice-Chair of Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Strategic Health Authority and finally as a non-executive director of the Norwich & Peterborough Building Society. Now retired, Zara continues to sit as a magistrate and is a trustee of a couple of local charities.

And the family – well, 'the boys' grew up! Simon is an Emergency Care Practitioner at London and Bart's Hospital; Nick becomes the Headmaster of the British School in Paris from September 2014; and Ben is a Solicitor in Berkshire. All appear happily married (one can say no more in this day and age, as we have had more than our fair share of weddings between them!) Life has its ups and downs, but we have much to be thankful for and we now have five lovely grand-children.

So, for us life in Norwich has been busy and fulfilling and has built on our 12 years in Formby. In the early years after moving, we returned frequently whilst Zara's parents lived in Crosby; but then family responsibilities and work in Norfolk took over. However, Christmas letters kept us in touch generally and close friendships in Formby have been maintained: in fact we have returned to Formby many times to celebrate New Year's Eve with the Brooks and Williams. After more than 40 years of friendship with David and Muriel Brooks it was with great sadness, but an enormous honour, that Zara delivered the eulogy at Muriel's funeral in 2012 at St Peter's Church.



We remember our Formby days with so much affection and send best wishes to everyone who remembers us.

Mike and Zara Hammond

WAR AND PEACE

No, I am not going to write a saga like Tolstoy's, just jot down a few thoughts about war and peace. Last week the Old Testament lesson was about battles in which thousands were killed and the prisoners taken were slaughtered. I sat there thinking about the Middle East as it is today, with Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Libya and Israel and Palestine all at one another's throats and wondered what had changed?

This year we commemorate the centenary of the beginning of World War I in 1914. It certainly was something to remember, but I cannot imagine that those who fought in the battles of the Somme and Passchendaele had a lot to celebrate. My grandfather was in the Somme and as he was going back from the Front for rest he passed his son going into the mud and blood, and he wished he had stayed at home. He later died from chest complications from being gassed.

At the sixtieth anniversary of D-Day I went to the Normandy beaches for that celebration. It was a glorious hot, sunny day and the beaches were full of veterans and people like myself, who went to pay their respects to those who died there. Many died on the beaches but many died in the sea before they ever reached the land. It was tragic. The people of Caen who had suffered terribly at the hands of both sides in the battles made us very welcome. It was hot and we had walked for miles on the sand and promenade and eventually found a café for a welcome cup of tea. The proprietor would not accept any money from us, saying that the people of Caen were grateful to our men for relieving the city. It was humbling. It was nothing to do with our generation, but they remembered those who had died for them, and welcomed us in their memory.

In England we are so fortunate that for centuries our shores have not been invaded and our lovely country wrecked by foreign troops. In World War II our towns and cities were bombed and life was disrupted, but no foreign powers took away our freedom. There has been an uneasy peace during the last sixty years in our land. There have been the 'Troubles' in Ulster which were akin to a civil war in places, with lives being disrupted and taken unnecessarily, but it has been resolved by word, not war.



Since the beginning of time young men from every nation have fought other young men over wars caused by politicians. Politicians make the balls and the young men throw them. I hope in future that they will think twice about it.

Many mediators have tried to bring about peace between warring nations, particularly in the Middle East, but for the last thousand years no one has succeeded in putting an end to war. As I sit here in my peaceful garden enjoying the sunshine, I pity and feel for all the people in the world where war is scarring their lives, particularly the children. Children should be happy, not traumatised.

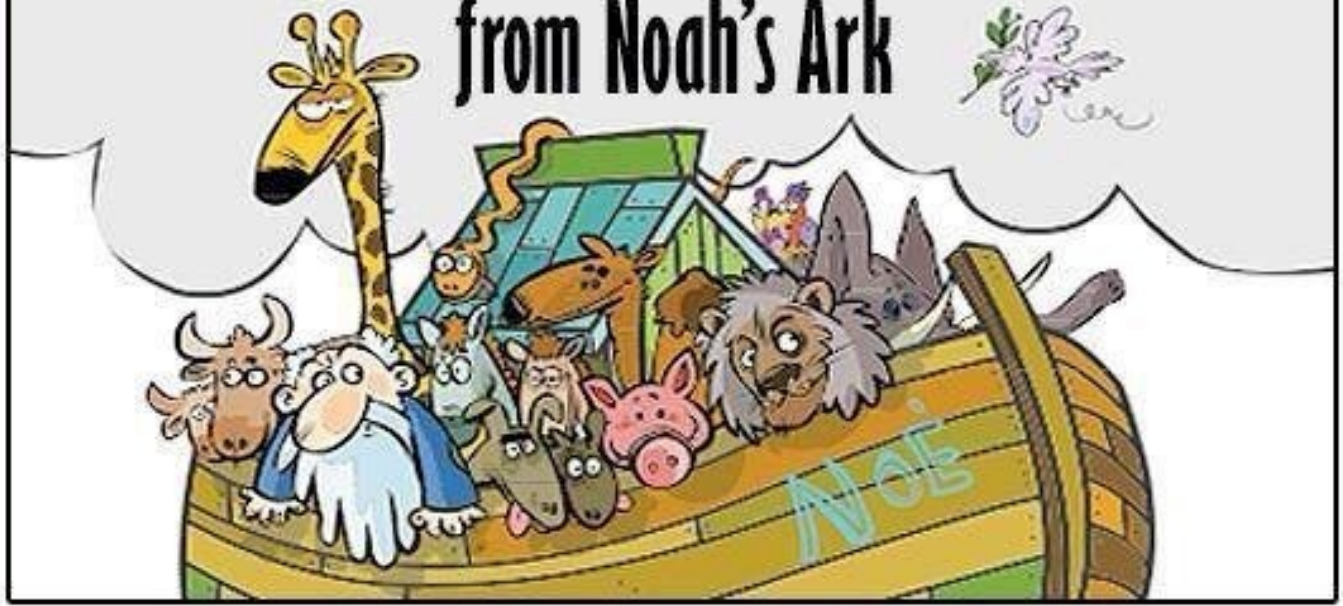
If only people would listen to the words of the Peacemakers, the world would be a happier and a wealthier place. Imagine all the money that is spent on armaments being spent on hospitals instead, it would make a big difference to us all.

We know that Jesus is the Prince of Peace, so why don't we listen to Him? Maybe I am very naïve, but on reading the beatitudes where Jesus says, "Blessed are the Peacemakers," we are all shown the right way forward. Why don't more people follow that way, I wonder?

In another five thousand years will anything have changed?

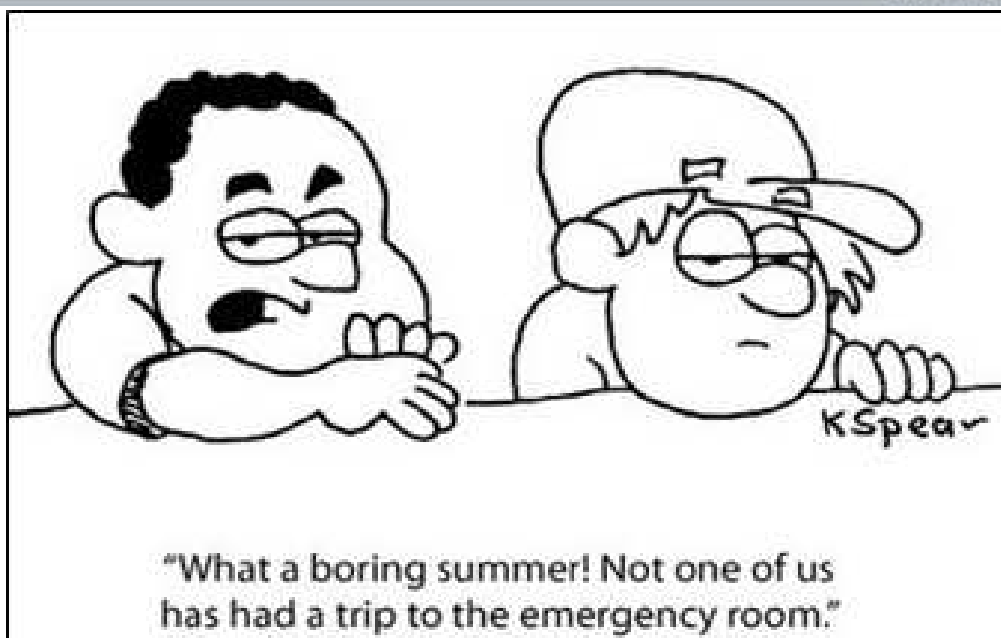
Martha

Everything I need to know about life, I learned from Noah's Ark



- 1 Don't miss the boat.
- 2 Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- 3 Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- 4 Stay fit. When you're really old, someone may ask you to do some thing really big.
- 5 Don't listen to the critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- 6 Build your future on high ground.
- 7 For safety sake, travel in pairs.
- 8 Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- 9 When you're stressed, float a while.
- 10 Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- 11 No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting..

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Membership of the Mothers' Union is open to men and women. We try to keep the Christian faith central to all that we do and we seek to improve the family life of the communities we live in through practical action and through prayer. Our prayer is that we may serve those around us, as Christ wants us to.

Members of St. Peter's MU should have received their 'Families Worldwide' July - December 2014 magazine. This is a *free* MU resource for prayer and action with many interesting articles.

Reminder: On Tuesday, 19th August, at 2.00 pm there will be a get-together at the home of our Deanery President, Beverley Boden: 15 St. Anthony's Road, Blundellsands.

On Thursday, 4th September, at 2.00 pm at our branch meeting after the summer break the speaker is Revd. Katy Canty, the prison chaplain at Altcourse Prison, Fazakerley

Our annual 'fun night', the Beetle Drive, is on Wednesday, 10th September, at 7.30 pm in the Bier House.

Deanery Prayers will be held at St. Luke's, Crosby, at 2.00 pm on 26th September.

Finally, on Thursday, 2nd October, the MU annual service for the admission of new members will be held. Denise Jones will be admitted by Revd. Anne in Church at 2.00 pm. Afterwards, over a cup of tea in the Bier House, Revd. Peter Paine will show slides and talk about the recent visit by St. Peter's members to Crete.

All are welcome at all events.

If you would like to join the Mothers' Union or find out more about it, please 'phone Eleanor (874112).





From the Back Pew

Ted Woods

A few weeks ago, at one of their sessions, the House of Lords discussed the English Parish Church. Peers lined up to express their enjoyment and appreciation of the 16,000 parish churches that cover the nation.

Lord Cormack is reported to have said that “the parish church comes closest to the soul and history of each community it serves”. Another speaker quoted the Chief Executive of English Heritage who once said, “The parish churches of England are some of the most sparkling jewels in the precious crown that is our historic environment.”

Lord Berkeley of Knighton agreed, “We can go for a drive somewhere and look up in a book a wonderful church to sit in, be with ourselves, think of God, or our place in society or in humanity. That is a staggering privilege.”

Their Lordships then went on to discuss – at length - the question of bats in churches until Lord Redesdale brought a necessary re-focus by remarking, “We should recognise that our parish churches are living buildings, and have to move forward to meet certain needs.”

Although at first the Jews, as a nomadic people, had a moveable place of worship – a tent which housed the Ark of the Covenant – yet as they settled in the Promised Land and established a monarchy, it wasn’t long before the Tent was replaced by the Temple. Later with the Temple twice destroyed, the synagogue became the local meeting place.

Christians have followed a similar development. In New Testament times, homes, especially bigger houses, were the main places of worship. When the Emperor Constantine became a Christian in the early 4th century and Christianity became the religion of the Roman Empire, buildings for worship, usually grand basilicas, proliferated. With the spread of the faith churches and places of worship became localised.

As one writer on churches has put it, “We have a rich heritage, the potential of which we must maximise for the kingdom of God.”

We live in an age when marketing dictates much of our environment. Millions are spent on the design of shopping malls and stores in order to attract customers in to buy. So it is a fair question to ask, 'What message do our church buildings give to those who pass by?' Are they welcoming or forbidding? Do they encourage us to go in or to stay out?

Those of us who go to church regularly underestimate what courage and effort it takes for a new person to cross the threshold of a church. Indeed the invitation, or lack of, begins not just inside but outside the church. Is there a word of welcome on the noticeboard? Are times of services easily and simply displayed? We have all come across noticeboards where you would need a calendar and a calculator to see which service is being held. And are the notices up to date?

What would it be like to be a stranger coming to St. Peter's for the first time? Full marks to St Peter's churchwardens who greet people at the front porch and to the smiling sidespersons who hand out service sheets and books.

How easy is it for families to worship together? Are children welcomed and catered for? And those with mobility problems?

Church buildings tell a story, not just of the past but of the present. What is the focus point in the church? Here in St Peter's it is clearly the altar, reflecting the Eucharist as the central act of worship, and the ornateness of the chancel area emphasises this.

Reflecting on the Lords' debate the challenge is how to integrate a respect and recognition of the past with modern worship and theology so that our churches are not museums but living centres of mission and outreach.

Every church has its own distinct ambience. Every church communicates an unspoken message about God and the people who worship within its walls.

Going into St Peter's for the first time, as we did nine months ago, (and again, apologies to Margaret for the devious secrecy of 'just passing by'!) one is struck by an atmosphere of prayer, worship, and openness. There is a sense of easy friendliness and one's eyes are drawn to altar and pulpit - the Anglican emphasis on word and sacrament.

In his book, 'Re-Pitching the Tent', Richard Giles wrote, "No detail is too small to be of significance."

So look again at St. Peter's with fresh eyes and open minds and ask whether in every detail we are communicating a message about God and ourselves that is welcoming, loving, caring, and are we making it easy for all kinds of people to become part of the St. Peter's family?

Dates for your Diaries

August 2014

Sunday 3rd	7th Sunday after Trinity
Wednesday 6th	2.30pm Eucharist at Halcyon House
Sunday 10th	8th Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 17th	9th Sunday after Trinity
Sunday 24th	St Bartholomew
Monday 25th	Bank Holiday – Parish Office Closed
Sunday 31st	11th Sunday after Trinity

September 2014

Wednesday 3rd	2.30pm Eucharist at Halcyon House
Thursday 4th	2.00pm Mothers' Union meeting in Bier House - theme "Prison Chaplain"
Sunday 7th	12th Sunday after Trinity 'Think About Sunday'
Wednesday 10th	2.00pm WOW service – for young families 7.30pm Mothers' Union "Beetle Drive" in Bier House
Sunday 14th	Battle of Britain Sunday 6.30pm Healing Service
Friday 19th	7.30pm Quiz Night in the Cricket Club
Sunday 21st	St Matthew
Sunday 28th	15th Sunday after Trinity

FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS

Baptisms

6th July

Edward McGeoch,
son of Malcolm & Nicola

20th July

Dominic James Coyle, son of Tony & Vicky

Autumn Holly Carton, daughter of David & Louise



Dominic's baptism

Weddings

29th June

Paul Roberts and Carly Teare



♥ Paul and Carly ♥



♥ Matt and Andrea ♥

4th July

Mathew White
and Andrea Selby

Andrew Braid and Teri-Lita Wrest

Funerals

16th July Dorothy Jackson

18th July Edna Whitfield

For further details please refer to our web-site:
www.stpetersformby.org

Baptisms, Weddings & Banns

These can be arranged through the Vicar

Funerals

If these involve a service in Church, arrangements should be made through an Undertaker.

Confessions

Can be made by appointment with the Vicar.

Visiting

The Vicar would appreciate being notified of any cases of sickness or visits that might be required. We regularly visit the local Nursing Homes within the Parish.

After Communion, elements of **The Sacrament** are set aside in the Church and reserved for the housebound or sick. Likewise, Holy Oils for the anointing of the sick are set aside and reserved in Church for strengthening the faithful. If you would like either of these to be brought to your home, please do not hesitate to ask.

The Vicar is currently the main co-ordinator for the parish visiting team. Please do not hesitate to contact her if you know of someone who requires a visit.

If you would like to be involved in visiting others, either at home or in a Nursing Home, please contact the Vicar.



Kids Bible Wordsearch

Animals in the Bible

Puzzle #1

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.



BEAR
 CAMEL
 DONKEY
 GAZELLE
 GOAT
 HART
 HORSE
 IBEX
 JACKAL

J	Q	D	B	I	U	D	P	F	M	Z	S	I
L	A	P	B	A	R	T	M	N	O	A	H	N
H	C	E	E	T	R	S	P	C	L	L	L	I
O	X	U	A	Y	T	E	L	L	E	Z	A	G
B	H	O	R	S	E	R	G	M	O	A	K	H
X	G	E	J	H	R	K	A	S	P	K	C	T
Q	X	S	S	C	O	C	N	H	A	I	A	H
K	T	R	E	U	N	I	C	O	R	N	J	A
B	R	R	Y	N	O	E	R	T	D	Q	M	W
C	S	J	X	J	I	M	S	M	M	O	L	K
I	F	Z	P	F	L	O	W	U	E	K	X	J
E	F	C	J	R	K	W	F	U	M	N	T	E
Q	L	B	W	V	N	M	J	N	Y	O	C	P

LEOPARD
 LION
 MOLE
 MOUSE
 NIGHTHAWK
 OSTRICH
 SHEEP
 UNICORN
 WOLF



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Smile Lines

So far so good

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent.

I'm really glad about that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed and from then on I'm going to need a lot more help. Thank you. Amen.

Parish Pump

Bible Wordsearch

Solution to last month's puzzle # 163
To You, O Lord, I Called

Sundays

8.00 am	Holy Communion (1662)
10.00 am	Parish Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
6.30 pm	Choral Evensong

Weekdays

9.00 am	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday Morning Prayer
11.00 am	Wednesday Eucharist (Coffee afterwards)
6.30 pm	Friday Eucharist

